

To the Honourable, the General Assembly of the State of  
North Carolina.

Your petitioner, whose name stands first at the end of this Petition, being a man in moderate circumstances, having scarcely any means by which to support himself and his family save that of the labour of his own hands, and having already sustained a considerable loss by having attended the Superior Court of Guilford County as a witness on behalf of the State, and thinking it very probable that he will have to go several times more, avails himself of the opportunity of petitioning your Honourable body, and prays, that you will consider the hardship of the Law that has fixed the compensation of witnesses at its present stand, especially when operating on a poor man in such a case as his is, and alter or amend the same, so as to allow a witness who may be compelled to go out of his own County, a compensation sufficient to defray his reasonable expenses. Your petitioner kept an exact account of his expenses, when he attended Guilford Court in 1831, which were \$35.35 cents. The time lost by his attendance, was worth \$15.00 more, making in all \$50.35 cents. As compensation your Petitioner received \$17.10 cents, being <sup>only</sup> 3 cents per mile for going and returning when his stage fare was 6 cents per mile—causing a loss of \$33.25 cents.

As your Petitioner may be compelled to incur a similar loss at many succeeding Courts, before the case be determined, he humbly hopes and trusts that your Honourable body will take the subject into consideration, and alter the said Law.

Newbern, N.C. November

November 10<sup>th</sup>, 1832.

Willie Allison Walker, Pet.

We whose names are subscribed are acquainted with the petitioner above and know the facts stated by him to be true, as related to himself. We also concur in thinking that where a person is compelled to leave his own county to appear as a witness in another county, his necessary expenses ought to be paid allowed him, and we